New policy for airport infrastructure

3712. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHR1 DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring a new policy for easy development of airport infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be cleared keeping in view the ensuing Commonwealth Games, 2010 in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government has approved a new Policy to streamline the process for setting up of new airports. Its salient features are:

(i) Terms and conditions of all the concerned agencies like DGCA, Security, Defence etc. would be prescribed up-front.

(ii) DGCA can clear a proposal if it meets a11 the prescribed terms and conditions.

(iii) If the proposal is to set up a new airport within an aerial distance of 150 kms from an existing airport, it would be considered by a Steering Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation on whose advise, the Ministry can clear it.

(iv) In case the proposal seeks any exemption from any of the prescribed conditions, it would require approval of the Union Cabinet.

(v) All reserved activities to be performed at the airport by central agencies like immigration, customs etc. would be on cost recovery basis.

Air services for North-East region

3713. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to plan exclusive airlines for North-East Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to open new airfields in this region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air services in North-East Region are operated under a Memorandum of Understanding between North East Council and Alliance Air and as per Route Dispersal Guidelines laid down by the Government. However, to increase the air connectivity between smaller cities, Government has now introduced the concept of scheduled regional airlines who will primarily operate in a designated region. Government has granted initial No Objection Certificate to ZAV Air to operate scheduled regional air services within Eastern and North-Eastern Region.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India proposes to take up Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Pekyong in Sikkim and Chiethu in Nagaland Greenfield Airports in North-East.

Pre-feasibility study of new Greenfield Airport at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh has also been carried out.

Food provided by private airlines

3714. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the private airlines in India, when delayed for hours many times, skip over lunches and dinners and manage with snacks though the lunch/dinner time could elapse long before landing; and

(b) if so, whether some steps could be taken to ensure due lunches/dinners in case of flights being delayed long and to avoid the inconvenience to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) In case of delays and cancellations, full service airlines provide adequate facilities to the passengers which include provision of food (breakfast/ lunch/dinner, as the case may be), hotel accommodation, conveyance, etc.

Low cost airlines also provide refreshments to passengers in case'the flight is delayed more than two hours.

(b) Government does not regulate commercial practices of the airlines.

Private airlines *vis-a-vis* Indian Airlines

3715. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased, to state:

(a)Jiow much market share is held by Indian Airlines and Air India on the one side and private airlines on the other, out of the total traffic in India;

the details of productivity, profitability, cost effect between Indian Airlines and Air India on the one side and one or two leading private sectors like Jet Airways, Kingfisher on the other; and

how do public sector airlines in India compare with the private airlines in India in terms of quality of service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Market share of domestic passengers of National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL), into which erstwhile Indian Airlines and Air India have been merged and private airlines as on March, 2008 is as under:—

Market Share (%)

NACIL	Private Scheduled Airlines
15.7	84.3

(b) The Government does not compare the productivity, profitability, cost effect of airlines.